



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

30 MARCH 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles – Armed Man Arrested on way to LA Gay Pride Parade Pleads Not Guilty

(U) An Indiana man arrested on his way to a Los Angeles-area gay pride parade last year after police found three assault rifles and potentially explosive chemicals in his car has pleaded not guilty to weapons charges. James Wesley Howell was arrested only hours after a gunman killed 49 people at a gay nightclub in Florida, but police said they found no connection between Howell and the Orlando mass shooting. He entered his plea yesterday in LA County Superior Court to unlawful possession of an assault weapon, importing large firearms magazines, possession of a destructive device and carrying a loaded gun in a car, according to court records. He also had a five-gallon bucket with chemicals that could be used to make an explosive device, police said after his arrest. Howell told police he was on his way to the LA Pride Festival in West Hollywood. Police said he made no mention of what he planned to do at the parade.

SOURCE: 29 March 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) Sacramento – College Evacuated After Bomb Threat

(U) A person on the Cosumnes River College campus was arrested yesterday afternoon for making bomb threats, school officials said. The library was evacuated about noon after the threat was received. However, no bomb was every found, according to Los Rios police. The person was found in the library and arrested shortly after the threat was made, college officials said.

SOURCE: 29 March 2017, [KCRA 3](#)

(U) San Diego – FBI Arrests Mexican Prosecutor over Drug Trafficking

(U) FBI agents have arrested a Mexican prosecutor suspected of involvement in the production and trafficking of illegal drugs including heroin and cocaine into the United States, authorities said yesterday. Edgar Veytia, the attorney general in Mexico's western state of Nayarit, was arrested Monday at the US border in San Diego. He was detained on a warrant from a New York state court. In the indictment, prosecutors said Veytia is facing three counts: conspiracy to produce and distribute heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine and marijuana, conspiracy to import those substances into the US, and conspiracy to distribute them.

SOURCE: 30 March 2017, [Associated Foreign Press](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Florida – Miami Police Arrest Suspect in Ambush of Two Detectives

(U) Miami – A 19-year-old man suspected of ambushing two Miami detectives in an unmarked car during a lookout for gang activity was arrested on Wednesday on attempted murder charges, police said. Damian Thompson of Miami is accused of wounding the plainclothes officers when he opened fire Monday night on their vehicle outside an apartment complex, Miami-Dade police said in a statement. He was taken into custody on Tuesday after investigators received a tip and raided a hotel near Miami

International Airport, police said. Thompson is charged with first-degree attempted murder, battery on a police officer and resisting an officer with violence.

SOURCE: 29 March 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) Puerto Rico – 3500 Pounds of Cocaine Seized near Puerto Rico

(U) San Juan – Authorities in Puerto Rico say they have seized more than 3,500 pounds of cocaine after chasing and stopping a boat north of the US territory. US Attorney Rosa Emilia Rodriguez said yesterday that four men were arrested. She said federal agents fired at the boat early Monday to disable its engines because the men did not stop as instructed. She said two of the men were arrested after they jumped into the water. The seizure is one of the largest reported this year.

SOURCE: 29 March 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Mexico – Mexico Transfers Zetas Cartel Leader to Border Prison

(U) Mexico City – Mexican authorities say they have transferred the leader of the brutal Zetas drug cartel to the same border prison that held Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman before he was extradited to the United States in January. A federal official said Miguel Angel Trevino Morales was transferred from the Altiplano prison west of Mexico City to a federal prison in Ciudad Juarez, across the border from El Paso, Texas. Trevino Morales is known as "Z-40." US prosecutors in Texas have charged him with money laundering, but it is unclear if there is a current extradition request for him.

SOURCE: 29 March 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Netherlands – Data Breaches Spiked by 86 Percent in 2016

(U) Amsterdam – Upwards of 1.4 billion records were compromised during the last calendar year, researchers said Tuesday, indicating an 86 percent increase over 2015. A total of 1,792 separate breaches were reported worldwide in 2016, according to the annual Breach Level Index published Tuesday by Gemalto, a Dutch digital security company, in turn affecting the integrity of over 1.38 billion different records. The nearly 1.4 billion figure, when broken down averages out to roughly 3.8 million records becoming compromised each day during 2016, or about 44 records every second. By comparison, 740 million records were compromised during all of 2015, according to Gemalto.

SOURCE: 29 March 2017, [The Washington Times](#)

(U) Syria – Syrian Army Captures ISIS Village

(U) Deir Hafer – The Syrian army captured the small town of Deir Hafer east of Aleppo from ISIS yesterday, a Syrian military source said, part of its operations to drive back the jihadist group and consolidate its control in that area. The village was the site of an important ISIS headquarters and contained a command and control center, an arms manufacturing site, field hospitals and highly engineered fortifications, the source said. A US-backed alliance of Kurdish and Arab militias, the Syrian Democratic Forces, has captured swathes of land east of the Euphrates and is working to isolate ISIS' bastion of Raqqa, which it expects to assault in early April.

SOURCE: 29 March 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-874-1100.

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Warning: This document is the exclusive property of the State Threat Assessment Center (STAC) and is UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO). It contains information that may be exempt from public release under the California Public Records Act (Govt. Code Sec. 6250-6270). It is to be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with STAC policy relating to U//FOUO information and is not to be released to the public, the media, or other personnel who do not have a valid "need-to-know" without prior approval of an authorized STAC official. No portion of this report should be furnished to the media, either in written or verbal form.

This document contains excerpts of suspicious activities and incidents of interest to the STAC as obtained from open and unclassified sources.